

MELLEN IS COMING
TO SEE PRESIDENT

Railway Conference Is Arranged for Tuesday.

DENEEN AT WHITEHOUSE

First of a Series of Important Meetings Is Held.

Governor of Illinois and Attorney General Stead Discuss the Situation with Chief Executive—Hughes and Other State Heads Will Come Later—Wall Street Flurry Will Not Affect Administration's Policy.

President Charles S. Mellen, of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railway, telegraphed the White House yesterday asking for an audience with the President at any time this week after to-morrow. Secretary Loeb immediately sent a reply making an engagement for Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

Mr. Mellen will see Mr. Roosevelt at that hour unless something altogether unexpected prevents. So far no word has been received at the White House from the other three railroad presidents, Messrs. McCrea, Newman, and Houghton, mentioned in the statement given out by J. P. Morgan following his visit to President Roosevelt last Monday. It is still believed in well informed circles here that one or two of them, and, perhaps, all three of them, will see the President in the near future, as proposed by Mr. Morgan.

Mr. Morgan is due to arrive in Europe to-night or to-morrow, and it is assumed that he will communicate with the three presidents by cable. It is not considered likely that he will be pleased to learn that the conference which he proposed to the President has not taken place as a result of the alleged disinclination of some of the railroad magnates to come to the Capital unless especially invited, and it is assumed that he may express himself to the railroad men in such a way as to induce them to change their minds.

Confers with Deneen.

A series of important conferences on matters pertaining to the regulation of railroads was begun at the White House yesterday afternoon, when the President met, at his own request, Gov. Deneen and Attorney General Stead, of Illinois. Later Mr. Roosevelt will have a talk with Gov. Hughes, of New York, and other State executives, the particular object being the reconciliation of the interests of the several States, and of the nation, in the matter of railway control.

The meeting yesterday is expected to result in no immediate issue, for it was held with the distinct object of preparing for next winter's campaign in Congress, when the President will urge the enactment of further legislation to control the common carriers.

No statement could be obtained at the White House or from the Illinois officials as to just what transpired at the conference, but no secret is made of the fact that President Roosevelt is seeking constantly for information and opinions as to the solution of what he regards as serious railway problems, and it is certain that those problems were discussed.

In pursuance of his railway policy, Mr. Roosevelt will not be influenced by events in Wall Street in any way. That there was a serious disturbance in financial circles last week he does not regard as his concern, and he will not allow the course in regard to the railroads in the slightest degree. That he has been much interested in the events of the last week is apparent to all his visitors, and he has talked freely with many of them about his policies.

Read Statement to Callers.

He read to two or three of them yesterday a statement prepared by him some time ago stating his views clearly and comprehensively on the railroad question, and it was reported early in the afternoon that the President would make this statement public. Later in the day it was denied the matter would be given out for publication. It was explained that the statement of the President's views consisted of a letter written to the Interstate Commerce Commission on January 24 last, but never delivered to that body.

This letter represented the President's attitude so clearly that in view of the conflicting incidents of last week and the widely divergent statements that have been made about what he might or might not do, he read it to several of his visitors. Among them was James Speyer, of New York, head of the well-known banking firm.

The further information was vouchsafed that the letter in question contained no new expression of President Roosevelt's views or intentions, but that it was rather a reiteration of what the President had said in his public speeches and messages to Congress on many occasions. It is probable that the letter would have been read to the four railroad presidents had they visited Washington last week, for the President regards it as a clear and unequivocal statement of his views touching the matters under discussion.

Officials Would Not Talk.

Gov. Deneen and Attorney General Stead, of Illinois, went to the White House at 2:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon by appointment, and they remained with the President about an hour. They declined afterward to discuss the conference in any way, except to say that it would not result in any issue or action in the near future. This accords with a remark made on authority at the White House, which was that the conference was not being held with any idea of inaugurating immediate action on any subject. The talk between the President and the Illinois officials pertained generally to the railroad question, and one of the particular ends which Mr. Roosevelt hopes to accomplish through this and other conferences is a centralization of railroad control in the Federal government. The President would have the States desist from wholesale legislation regulating passenger and freight rates, at least until the Interstate Commerce Commission has had time to carry out a line of investigations; and he would have them leave the regulation of these matters generally to the Federal government.

There was a rumor several days ago that the President expected to call a general

WEATHER FORECAST.

For the District of Columbia and Maryland—Partly cloudy and warmer to-day. To-morrow fair, colder; fresh southwest to north-west winds.

HERALD NEWS SUMMARY.

PAGES. TELEGRAPHIC.
1—Tillman Makes Warm Speech.
1—Clew to Marvin Boy Found.
1—Eleven Killed in Virginia Mine.
2—Seek Cause of Helicon Hall Fire.
2—Thurs's Lawyers Make Final Plans.
2—Flood Nearing Cincinnati.
5—News of Maryland and Virginia.

LOCAL.

1—Fire Insurance Rates Slashed.
1—Mellen Will See the President.
2—Man Crushed Between Cars.
2—More Police Changes Contingent.
4—President Names River Commission.
4—Report of Typhoid Conditions.
4—Broker Hileston a Bankrupt.

SPORTING.

8-9—All the News and Gossip of Track, Field, Turf, and Diamond.

GRANDSON FOR MRS. LEITER.

Heir Is Born to Col. and Mrs. Collin Campbell.

Col. and Mrs. Collin Campbell are the proud parents of a son. The child was born Friday, and Mrs. Campbell, formerly Miss Nannie Leiter, had the happy news at once sent by cable to her mother, Mrs. L. Z. Leiter, in this city.

Mrs. Collin Campbell is the second daughter of the late Levi Z. Leiter, of Chicago. Lady Curzon, who died in London July 18 last, was her eldest sister. The advent of a son is regarded with unusual interest in Washington, as it was here she wed Maj. Campbell in 1904, in the magnificent new mansion built by her father.

Col. Campbell commands the Indian Horse, one of the swifter regiments of India. He is related to the Duke of Argyll, and the Collin Campbells have entry to the court circles of England.

FOLK CALLS EXTRA SESSION.

Missouri Legislature to Meet April 2, According to Plan.

Jefferson City, Mo., March 16.—To-night Gov. Folk authorized and announced that an extra session of the legislature would be called April 2. The proclamation convening the assembly, if in the governor's intention to-night, will be issued Wednesday.

Asked as to the matters which would be suggested for the consideration of the assembly, the governor said they would include excise legislation, the public utilities bill, authorizing municipal assemblies to fix schedules of rates for the service rendered by public service corporations, police regulations for the cities, and the quo warranto bill.

YOUNG FAIRBANKS CLEARED.

Perjury Case, Following His Elopement, Is Nolle Prossed.

Steuensville, Md., March 16.—The perjury case against Fred Fairbanks, son of the Vice President, was nolle prossed by Judge Richards to-day, and the young man will never be tried. The two charges of subornation of perjury against him were nolle two weeks ago.

Young Fairbanks eloped with Miss Helen Scott, from Pittsburg, last winter. Their elopement secured in Steuensville through a third person, Prosecutor Alban decided that Fairbanks could not be held after the subornation of perjury case was dismissed.

MANSFIELD DENIES VIOLENCE

Claims He Did Not Beat His Leading Lady During Play.

Miss Dunn Says She Was Jealous, Hissed Her, and in Trying Scene Handed Her Roughly.

New York, March 16.—Richard Mansfield issued to-day a typewritten statement regarding the retirement from the cast of Miss Emma Dunn, who played Ase Gynt, Peer's mother, in "Peer Gynt."

Miss Dunn left the cast suddenly at the end of the first act on Thursday night. She told the stage manager that Mr. Mansfield had slapped her roughly in the scene where Gynt throws her to the roof of a small house.

In his statement Mr. Mansfield says: "This present season, in Cleveland, Miss Emma Dunn left the stage during the play, averring that Mr. Mansfield had injured her nerve center by slapping her on the back. She was withdrawn from the cast, but after sending a number of pitiable and imploring letters, accompanied by a doctor's certificate that she was perfectly well, Mr. Mansfield was finally persuaded to reinstate her in the company."

"On Thursday last, during the performance, Miss Emma Dunn again suddenly left the cast, much to the amazement of every one. She had not been reprimanded or scolded, and nothing whatever had been said to her or done to her. Mr. Mansfield desires to say that he endeavored to be kind and considerate to all, and he never willingly or knowingly injures any one."

Giving her version of the incident on Thursday night, when the actress quit, Miss Dunn said:

"In the first act, while I had the stage, he got behind a rock and hissed 'Rotten! Rotten! Rotten!' at me as long as I was speaking."

"Then, as I started on my long speech, he came close to me and began whispering 'Hurry up! Go along! You're rotten! I became so flustered that for a moment I forgot my lines. This seemed to please him, and he came closer and said something like 'You're a rotten actress.' Finally, I remembered the words, and in my confusion I hurried through them so fast that when his cue came he was taken unawares and hesitated."

"That seemed to drive him wild. At the cue to take me up on the cabin he grabbed me as if I were something hateful and literally flung me from him, spilling the scene and almost knocking the breath out of my body."

"The trouble with Mr. Mansfield is that he is suffering from a collision between brainstorm and exaggerated ego."

Baltimore and Return, \$1.25.

Baltimore and Ohio R. R.

Every Saturday and Sunday. All trains, both ways, both days, except Royal Limited. City offices, 1117 G st. and 619 Pa. ave.

Libbey & Co., 6th and N. Y. ave.

THE MODERN ST. PATRICK.



FIRE RATES SLASHED

Insurance Reduced 25 to 50 Per Cent.

LOCAL COMPANIES PROTEST

President Bergman, of the Board of Underwriters, Resigns Because of the Cut—Outside Concerns Say the District Is Entitled to the Lower Premiums—Alarmed by Reduction.

REDUCTION IN INSURANCE RATES.

Brick dwellings, from 50 to 30 cents.
Frame dwellings, from 40 to 20 cents.
Contents of brick dwellings, from 30 to 20 cents.
Contents of frame dwellings, from 40 to 30 cents.
Small mercantile stores, 25 per cent from present rates.
Mercantile stores, reduced last August 25 per cent.
The rate is so many cents' cost to each \$100 of appraised value.

By action of the Washington board of underwriters, fire insurance of several classes of risks in the District will be reduced from 25 to 50 per cent, beginning March 15. Radical divergence of views upon the subject among the members of the board threatens to change its personnel materially, and to array the local companies against those with headquarters in other cities in hostile business camps.

Yesterday morning a new schedule of rates of insurance on a number of classes of risks was promulgated by the board of underwriters, and placed in the hands of agents throughout the city, those affiliated with the organization being informed that the established rates must be observed. It is said that the final meeting of the board, at which this action was decided upon was not entirely harmonious in the vote to make the reductions, and late yesterday it was announced that H. H. Bergman, president of the board, had submitted his resignation, and that the company of which he is the head would withdraw from affiliation with the board. It was also stated yesterday that several, if not all, of the local fire insurance companies would withdraw from the board, not being in sympathy with the reduction in the rates of insurance.

Explains Board's Action.

A prominent insurance man, and an officer of the board of underwriters, yesterday stated the reasons for the board's action, and went over carefully all the causes leading up to the split between the local and the out-of-town companies in the matter of rates. He said the Washington companies were affiliated with the middle division of the National Underwriters' Association, with headquarters in Philadelphia.

This association is made up of the firm of the several companies in all parts of the country. Five years ago, it is said, a report was submitted to this association that the rates in Washington on several classes of insurance were too high. The reasons why they were considered too high were that through the work of the underwriters in surveying the risks, through the inspections carried on by the local fire department, through excellent building requirements, wide streets, and increase in the number of fireproof buildings, it was proper that the rates on several classes of risks should be reduced. This report was opposed by some of the Washington fire men then, and every time it has been brought before the association since.

A year ago the committee of the Underwriters' Association came to Washington

and directed that a reduction of 25 per cent go into effect at once on stocks of mercantile goods. Soon afterward two of the local fire insurance companies withdrew from the local board of underwriters.

Justified by Local Board.

Last summer the San Francisco disaster hung up the proposition for a few months, but about two weeks ago the committee decreed that the reduced rates should go into effect in Washington on March 15. This was ratified by the local board in a meeting held last Friday.

It was explained that the bulk of the insurance business was in the classes named in the schedule of reductions, and the insurance man said that the board of underwriters in the pursuit of its duty owed it to the people of the District to grant them a reduced rate where that was possible, quite as much as to secure better appraisal of risks, better inspection service, and better building methods. He declared that in these particulars the liability of fire loss had been reduced in the city of Washington by a percentage perhaps greater than the decrease in rates, but at least the reduction was fair from the standpoint of safe insurance—fair to the companies and fair to the patrons.

The opponents of the reduced rates say that the business of the local companies is very largely in the class of risks represented in the reductions. They say their business has been built up through a series of years on that basis; that premiums, agents' fees, and other expenses have been adjusted upon that basis, and that the reduction would work a hardship on the companies, which in some cases might drive them out of business.

Alarmed by Reduction.

They view the reduction of their income in the light of alarm, and an official of one of the local companies declared yesterday that the only course to pursue was to withdraw from the board of underwriters and unite upon a basis of the larger rate, as the only hope of continuing in business. This man designated the action of the middle division as a despicable attack upon the local companies to take business from them and weaken their position among the business institutions of the city. This official stated that there was no such conclusion to be drawn from the better fire protection in Washington as a horizontal cut in rates amounting to more than 25 per cent.

Glitch in the organization being informed that the established rates must be observed. It is said that the final meeting of the board, at which this action was decided upon was not entirely harmonious in the vote to make the reductions, and late yesterday it was announced that H. H. Bergman, president of the board, had submitted his resignation, and that the company of which he is the head would withdraw from affiliation with the board. It was also stated yesterday that several, if not all, of the local fire insurance companies would withdraw from the board, not being in sympathy with the reduction in the rates of insurance.

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TILLMAN NO CRACKER

Senator Declares He Comes from Virginia Stock.

DESCRIBES RATE BILL FIGHT

Declares President Absorbed Idea from Democratic Platforms—Ready with Pitchfork to Save Measure from Assassination—Will Criticize Whom and Where He Pleases.

Winchester, Va., March 16.—"I will criticize any man I please, at any time I please, in any way I please."

With the above remark Senator Tillman concluded his lecture to-night to a large audience that had been applauding him for two and a half hours.

"Newspapers have said that I am a descendant of a South Carolina 'cracker' family," he said. "I asked my mother about my family, and she told me that my ancestors from both sides came from Virginia before the Revolutionary war and fought on the right side in that struggle, and that the men were brave and the women virtuous. I claim that I have as good a pedigree as any white man in the world."

"I had something to do with railroads last winter," said Tillman, and the audience broke into a laugh. He described the fight made for the rate bill, and spoke of how the task of pushing the bill had been put upon him, "because I was a man who didn't go to the White House and wouldn't go there." He said:

"I said that the President had stolen the rate bill idea from Democratic platforms, which I had helped to make, and that I considered the bill more mine than the President's. I was ready with my pitchfork to see that the bill should not be assassinated, and I expected to be backed up, but when I looked around for the 'big stick' I saw the President's coat tails standing out, and he was sliding till he got between Aldrich's legs, and the Allison amendment was in his hand."

Describing the trouble between himself and McLaughlin, which led to his hostility to the President, he said:

"He gave me the lie because he thought that in the Senate he could do so with impunity. He did not give me the lie when I made the charges against him, standing within six feet of him, in South Carolina."

"I jumped over Senator Teller and hit McLaughlin on the nose. I came from a State where, if a man gives you a lie, you have either got to hit him on the nose or get out of decent society."

BURTON THREATENS TROUBLE.

Former Senator Hires Opera House to Expose His Enemies.

Athens, Kans., March 16.—Former Senator Joseph R. Burton, who is expected to return to his home here next week from Ironton, Mo., where he is now in jail serving a six months' sentence, has engaged the local theater for March 23, when he will deliver a public address.

Burton has threatened for some time to expose those whom he charged with being responsible for his conviction, and it is thought his remarks next Saturday will create a sensation. Burton will be released from the Ironton jail March 22.

King Edward to Visit Ireland.

London, March 16.—Reynolds' newspaper says the King will visit Ireland at the middle of June. He will remain there for about two weeks.

Noon Train to Pittsburg and Chicago, Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

The "Chicago Limited" leaves Washington 12:22 p. m.; arrives Pittsburg 3:42 p. m.; Chicago 9:45 a. m. Observation parlor car, drawing-room sleeping cars, and dining cars.

Libbey & Co., 6th and N. Y. ave.

TRAGEDIES IN PITTSBURG.

Love Causes Epidemic of Shootings Among Pennsylvania Inhabitants.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 16.—An epidemic of tragedies, due to disappointments in love, and domestic troubles, has struck this section.

C. P. Demennus, a rich Greek, is dying at a hospital from wounds inflicted by G. B. Castiglione, his rival for the affections of pretty nineteen-year-old Minnie Perazzo, who was also shot and fatally wounded shortly before midnight. Castiglione escaped and has so far remained in hiding.

At Butler, near here, August Colinet, a retired glass-worker, shot and killed his wife, aged twenty-two, and then blew out his brains. He was jealous.

Miss Caroline Morgan hanged herself in her Allegheny home. She was dependent because her lover, Thomas Murphy, was killed in a barroom quarrel.

Two other Allegheny suicides are reported by the police, while a double shooting, due to a dispute about love, occurred near Bridgeport last night, both the man and the woman dying.

OVATION FOR SENATOR BAILEY.

Texas Cattlemen Will Present Him with Diamond Badge To-morrow.

Dallas, Tex., March 16.—A private telegram from United States Senator Bailey to a friend in Dallas this afternoon from Lexington, Ky., says Mr. Bailey will be in Fort Worth as a guest of the Texas cattlemen's convention next Monday night. He will be met at the union station by a committee and will be driven through the city in a carriage drawn by four white horses.

He will be taken to the reception hall, where a costly diamond-studded badge will be presented to him by the Knights of Bovine. Bailey's friends say Monday night's reception will be the grandest demonstration ever held in honor of a citizen of Texas.

FIND \$400,000 IN BONDS.

Police Believe Part of Funds Taken by Walker Have Been Located.

New Britain, Conn., March 16.—It was learned here to-night that a large amount of the missing bonds of the New Britain Savings Bank taken from Treasurer William F. Walker have been located. In truth, the bank will be able to recover.

It is rumored the missing bonds located amount to \$400,000. These are said to be in New York.

The total amount of bonds taken by Walker were \$650,000. So that more than two-thirds have been located, according to the latest story.

CRUISER LAUNCHED SECRETLY.

British Fear America and Germany Are Copying Plans of War Ships.

Glasgow, March 16.—Owing to the charges that agents of the United States and Germany were copying the plans of the British war ships now in the course of construction, the admiralty has ordered that the most stringent secrecy be maintained in the building of the war ships.

The indomitable, the largest and fastest cruiser afloat, was secretly launched on the Clyde this afternoon. Two sister cruisers will be ready for launching within a fortnight.

POLICE CLERK DISMISSED.

James L. Mock, Former Washingtonian in Trouble in New York.

New York, March 16.—James L. Mock, executive clerk of the police department, has been summarily dismissed by Police Commissioner Bingham.

Many policemen say they have advanced large sums of money to Mock. No action has been taken against Mock, beyond his dismissal, but detectives are keeping track of him. He came here from Washington.

ELEVEN DIE IN MINE BLAST

Fire Damp Explosion Takes Place 1,500 Feet Below Surface.

Accident in Wise County, Va., in Mine Owned by Bond & Bruce.

THREE MEN MISSING.

Bristol, Tenn., March 16.—Eleven men killed, four badly injured, and three missing is the result of a fire-damp explosion in the coal mine owned by Bond & Bruce, at Lacoma, five miles east of Norton, in Wise County, Va., to-day.

Cad and Alonzo Ritchie, both married; James and Robert Snow, brothers; Boliver and Cleveland Nonchese, brothers; Adolphus Gibbs, and four men whose bodies were buried under slate which the explosion brought down, and who have not yet been identified.

Those badly injured are: Will Kearne, bank boss; James Patterson, Robert Ryan, and Will Coleman, the last mentioned being colored.

Three others are missing and cannot be accounted for.

The work of rescue cannot be completed by to-morrow. The explosion occurred 1,500 feet below the surface, and is regarded to have been due to the inefficient work of the machinery, which allowed gas to accumulate. It is possible a greater number than now accounted for may be entombed.

Robert P. Bruce, one of the owners of this mine, is well known in Virginia, having been the Democratic nominee for Congress in the Ninth Virginia district last fall.

CHILDREN IN SUICIDE PACT.

Eleven-year-old Girl at St. Louis Ends Her Life.

St. Louis, March 16.—Fearing to face her teachers because she played truant from school, Liebling Sloumb, eleven years old, committed suicide last night at her home by taking a dose of carbolic acid. The child was the daughter of Hugh M. L. Sloumb, general manager of the Union Sand Company. A drug clerk is under arrest for selling the poison to the child.

It was developed through testimony at the coroner's inquest that the girl had entered into a suicide pact with Gertrude Harper, ten years old. Gertrude testified that she had told her mother that she was going to take her life, and was prevented from doing so.

Why Buy Fraternal or Assessment Insurance? The "Northwestern" offers life insurance at age 25, \$12.21 per \$1,000; \$24.42; 45, \$22.71; 55, \$27.50. These rates reduced by annual dividends of over 20 per cent. Huske & Smith, General Agents.

Established 1824. Lumber.

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KIDNAPPER IS LURED
NEAR MARVIN HOME

Comes Within 100 Yards of Hiding Detectives.

THEN PIRATE ESCAPES

Grows Suspicious When Signals Are Not Answered.

Black-hulled Sloop Scuds Before Wind for Jersey Coast—Young Marvin's Cousin and Brother Play on Beach for Decoy While Officers and Newspaper Men Wait Anxiously in Tall Grass—Seen in Philadelphia.

Dover, Del., March 16.—In a black-hulled sloop which tacked up and down in front of Kitts Hummock Beach this afternoon for over half an hour, finally heading toward the Jersey shore when the signals of white and black flags displayed from the masthead were not answered, detectives believe that four-year-old Horace N. Marvin, Jr., kidnapped thirteen days ago, is held a prisoner by his abductors.

Concealed in tall marsh grass bordering the shore, a score of detectives lay all day, watching for the sloop, which confirms the rumors that the authorities have entered into negotiations with the kidnappers, and that the boy is to be returned to his father within the next forty-eight hours.

Children on Beach as Decoys.

While the detectives secreted themselves, Rose Standish, the six-year-old cousin of the boy, who was playing with him at the hay stack on the day that he was stolen, and John Marvin, his six-year-old brother, were used as decoys to lure the men in the boat to land. For hours the children romped up and down the beach. When the mysterious sloop drew in sight, they kept on playing, as if nobody was around, but the occupants of the boat evidently grew suspicious when their signals were unanswered, and sailed away.

Since the sighting of the sloop late this afternoon, the headquarters of the detectives here has been the scene of much activity. Situated in a cove of two miles, three were speedily dispatched for parts kept secret. Three of the men boarded an express train for New Jersey, where they will stop the boatmen if they make an attempt to land there.

Search on Bay Meadows Shore.

At daybreak to-day the detectives slipped quietly out of town. They went first to the "Bay Meadows" farm of Dr. Marvin, where they picked up Rose Standish and the elder brother of the kidnapped boy. From there they hurriedly drove to the farm of Harry Viden, a near neighbor, and one of the last persons to see the diminutive boy playing around the haystack.

At full speed the party went to Kitts Hummock. Several hours after the detectives thoroughly searched every shack and house on the beach front. In one crust of bread and badly torn paper cracker house was found one of the boys. No importance, however, is attached to this discovery.

Reception Party in Tall Grass.

While the men ransacked the houses, tearing up floors, sticking long poles up the chimneys, and grappling down the wells, the children played on the beach, positive instructions for them to romp about on the sand until they were told to return having been given them by the detectives.

Several hours after the detectives reached Kitts Hummock they were re-enforced by a corps of reporters and newspaper photographers. Ordered by the detectives, they took up positions at full length in the wet marsh grass for a stretch of six hours.

"You fellows got to hide," said Detective Simmons, who was in charge of the party, "so something might happen."

From 10 o'clock until 4 p. m. the party hid secreted. A few minutes after 4 o'clock, with their powerful marine glasses, the sleuths were able to make out the faint outlines of the alleged kidnappers' boat.

"Everybody quiet now," cautioned Simmons, "we'll land them this trip and get the boy."

Closer and closer to the shore the boat sailed. When about 500 yards off, the sloop was caught by a strong southeasterly wind and nearly capsize while tacking in